

REMARKS

Applicants thank the Examiner for the thorough consideration given the present application. Claims 1, 2, 5, 7, 11, 12, 16-18 and 20-27 are pending in the present application. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider his rejections in view of the Remarks as set forth hereinbelow.

ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

Applicants thank the Examiner for allowing claims 1, 2, 5, 7, 11, 12, 16-18 and 20-25 and indicating claim 27 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

REJECTION UNDER 35 § USC 102

Claim 26 stands rejected under 35 USC § 102(e) as anticipated by Ishii et al. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Independent claim 26 includes a combination of elements and is directed to a frame structure in a saddle type vehicle including a body frame divided into a front assembly having a closed loop structure, an engine support system assembly having a closed loop structure, and a rear suspension support system assembly having a closed loop structure and the front assembly and the rear suspension support system assembly being connected to the engine support system assembly to form the body frame. Further, a steering support portion is provided on the engine support system assembly, and the engine support system assembly includes a pair of left and right engine support system closed loop structures connected by an engine support system cross member.

Ishii has a front assembly 14 and an engine support system 15. As shown in Figs. 2 and 5 of Ishii, a steering support portion 33 is provided on the front assembly 14, not on the engine support system 15. Furthermore, in Ishii, the shaft is mounted at the front assembly 14 and is not located on the engine support system 15, because an upper boss 34 is mounted on the front of the steering support portion 33 to hold the shaft, guiding the shaft to the front assembly 14, as shown

in Fig. 1. This further shows that the steering support portion 33 in Ishii belongs to the front assembly 14, not the engine support system 15.

Further, the engine support system in Ishii does not have closed loops connected by a cross member. Fig. 5 of Ishii shows that the engine support system 15 consists of left and right frame members connected by a cross member, but the frame members in Ishii are not closed loops.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted independent claim 26 is also allowable.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above remarks, it is believed that the claims clearly distinguish over the patents relied on by the Examiner, either alone or in combination.

In view of the above remarks, reconsideration of the rejections and allowance of all of the claims are respectfully requested.

All of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding rejections and that they be withdrawn. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance.

If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (703) 205-8000 in the Washington, D.C. area.

A prompt and favorable consideration of this request for reconsideration is respectfully requested.

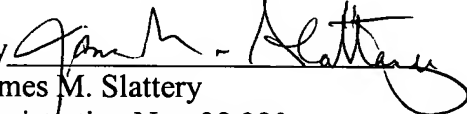
Application No. 10/815,754
Amendment dated May 4, 2007
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Docket No.: 0649-1005PUS1

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37.C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.14; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated: May 7, 2007

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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